

Amendments to the claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

Claims 1-11 (cancelled)

12 (new): A chromatographic composite material comprising a support at least partially covered by a hydrophobic polymer containing fluorine moieties obtainable by a process comprising the steps

of

- contacting a support with a cross-linkable compound having at least one olefinic double bond, until the support at its surface is at least partially covered with the cross-linkable compound, followed by
- fluorination of the support at least partially covered with the cross-linkable compound,
- removal of unreacted material, if any, and
- recovering said composite material.

13 (new): A chromatographic composite material for separation of DNA and RNA from proteins and other substances comprising a support at least partially covered by a hydrophobic polymer containing fluorine moieties obtainable by a process comprising the steps of

- contacting a support with a cross-linkable compound having at least one olefinic double bond until the support at its surface is at least partially covered with the cross-linkable compound, followed by
- fluorination of the support at least partially covered with the cross-linkable compound,
- removal of unreacted material, if any, and
- recovering said composite material in preparative or analytical scale,

wherein the composite material specifically binds the proteins and other substances but specifically does not bind the DNA and RNA.

14 (new): The composite material according to claim 12, wherein the support is comprised of a porous inorganic metal oxide.

15 (new): The composite material according to claim 14, wherein said inorganic metal oxide is selected from the group consisting of oxides of aluminum, titanium, zirconium, silicon, and iron and mixtures thereof.

16 (new): The composite material according to claim 12, wherein said cross-linkable compound is an oligomer of a substituted or unsubstituted diene.

17 (new): The composite material according to claim 16, wherein said oligomer is selected from the group consisting of C₄-C₁₀ olefinic dienes.

18 (new): The composite material according to claim 16, wherein the oligomer is butadiene, isoprene, chloroprene, or piperilene or a mixture thereof.

19 (new): The composite material of claim 16, wherein the averaged molecular weight of the oligomer is in the range of from 2 kD to 300 kD.

20 (new): The composite material according to claim 12, wherein the fluorination is performed with XeF₂ or a mixture of fluorine and nitrogen, or XeF₂ and a mixture of fluorine and nitrogen.

21 (new): A chromatographic column or cartridge at least partially filled with the composite material according to claim 12.

22 (new): A microporous filter material comprising the composite material according to claim 12 embedded in a polymeric matrix.

23 (new): The microporous filter material according to claim 22, wherein said polymeric matrix is a nylon membrane.

24 (new): The composite material according to claim 12 in bulk form for performing fast sample preparations or chromatographic separations of DNA.

25 (new): The composite material according to claim 24, for conducting the separation of DNA from other substances in one step.

26 (new): An item containing the composite material according to claim 12 wherein the item is a chromatographic column or cartridge or a microporous filter material.

27 (new): The item material according to claim 26, in combination with filter materials, reagents and/or buffers, chemicals and/or other devices for performing fast sample preparations or chromatographic separations of DNA and RNA.

28 (new): A method of chromatographic separation comprising applying a source of DNA, RNA, proteins, and the substances to a chromatographic composite material that specifically binds the proteins and other substances but specifically does not bind the DNA and RNA, wherein the

composite material comprises a support at least partially covered by a hydrophobic polymer containing fluorine moieties obtainable by a process comprising the steps of

- contacting a support with a cross-linkable compound having at least one olefinic double bond until the support at its surface is at least partially covered with the cross-linkable compound, followed by
- fluorination of the support at least partially covered with the cross-linkable compound,
- removal of unreacted material, if any, and
- recovering said composite material in preparative or analytical scale.

29 (new): The method of claim 28, wherein separation of DNA and RNA from proteins and other substances is conducted in one step.

30 (new): The composite material according to claim 13, wherein the support is a porous inorganic metal oxide.

31 (new): A chromatographic separation item containing the composite material according to claim 13.